

Tapuitea ...ina ia manino le folauga.

Tuesday July 24, 2007

OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. II, No. 10



Gifts of Thanks from the Tafuna Warriors Football Team

Governor Togiola Tulafono on Tuesday, July 17, 2007, was presented with gifts of thanks from the Tafuna Warriors football team for his great support in their most recent off island trip to Hawai'i, Nevada and California.

A coaching staff of 8, which included Warriors Head Coach Jason Magalei, Assistant Coach Kolose Ili and Vice Principal Rod Atafua, took 36 players to visit University of Hawaii - Manoa, attend a football camp in Las Vegas with 19 other national high schools, and visit Los Angeles Valley Community College and University of Southern California.

Governor Togiola, who was presented with a signed-football, T-shirt and training jacket at the Office of the Governor, said he was very happy that the help from the Office of the Governor and the Department of Education was put to good use by the team.

"We are very happy that we, along with DOE, could help with your trip and that it was beneficial to every player and coach that went on the trip," said Governor Togiola. "I am very thankful for your trip because it allowed another opportunity to expose our young players to gain first-hand experience from off island players as well as coaches. These great trips is an awakening for our players and will improve our approach to the game."

Pictured (1 to r): Tafuna Warriors Head Coach Jason Magalei, Vice Principal Rod Atafua, Governor Togiola, Captain Maka Leapaga and Assistant Coach Kolose IIi.

SHARE IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

with our ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa. Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other information to:

Harry Stevens (harry.stevens@americansamoa.gov or Vince Iuli (vince.iuli@americansamoa.gov)

Governor Creates Travel Task Force

In order to design, plan, and implement comprehensive travel regulations for the American Samoa Government, Governor Togiola Tulafono has created a Travel Regulations Task Force.

The move was noted in Togiola's June 1 general memorandum that was forwarded to all ASG departments and agencies.

Members of the Task Force are Attorney General Fepulea'i Afa Ripley, the Governor's Chief Legal Counsel Toetasi Tuiteleleapaga, ASG Comptroller Brian Mix, Chief Procurement Officer Seui Laau, Budget and Planning Director Magalei Logovi'i, the Governor's Senior Policy Advisor Oreta Togafau, and ASG Treasurer Velega Savali who has been appointed to serve as chairman of the newly formed group.

According to the memo, the Task Force shall research, investigate, and report to the Governor on recommendations for comprehensive travel policies and regulations for the American Samoa Government.

The recommendations are to focus on measures designed to reduce travel costs to ASG, eliminate abuse attendant with the current system, and standardize government wide policies and regulations.

Findings and recommendations of the Task Force are to be submitted in a report forwarded to the Governor's Office no later than July 31, 2007.

"I ask all of you to extend to the Task Force your customary support and cooperation," Togiola concluded.

PC Tuitele Fofo is Fofo County Senator

Paramount Chief Tuitele Fofo was sworn into office as the new Fofo County Senator when the Fono reconvened on Monday, July 9 for its second regular session.

Tuitele fills the seat left vacant with the recent passing of Rev. Sen. Faiivae Apelu Galea'i.

Tuitele comes to the upper chamber of the local Legislature from the Department of Port Administration where he served as director for the past two years before he resigned to take on the senatorial seat.

He has been assigned to the Senate Committees on Transportation and Communications.

In his June 25 resignation letter to Governor Togiola, Tuitele wrote, "as a senator, I will be committed to ensure that all our seaport and airport projects become a reality." He continued, "I will do my best to support all economic development projects and to serve our people's best interest." Tuitele's resume includes service as deputy director for the Office of Property Management; deputy director for the Department of Administrative Services; Chief Executive Officer for Goodwill Industries American Samoa; and auto parts and credit and collections manager for Pacific Products.

Tuitele was also appointed by the late Governor Uifaatali Peter Coleman as director of Administrative Services in 1989. In addition, he served as Industrial Park manager and his most recent position was serving as director of Port Administration.

Governor Togiola praised Tuitele for all the work he did while serving as Port director, since he was appointed to the position in early 2005. Tuitele, a father of four, is married to Fesala'i Allen Tuitele and they make their home in Leone.

DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AMERICAN SAMOA NOTICE TO ASG STUDENT LOAN BORROWERS AND GUARANTORS

All American Samoa Government (ASG) student loan borrowers who received their last student loan disbursement before December 31, 2005, and are qualified for partial repayment waivers up to 50%, will only be able to obtain such waivers if they redocument their loans with DBAS by December 31, 2007.

Parent guarantors for ASG student loans are encouraged to immediately assist your children who are ASG student loan borrowers so they can get the repayment waivers they are qualified for and avoid adverse reports to the credit bureaus and other legal action.

Another incentive to pay for your ASG student loans now rather than later is that you may be qualified for a student loan interest deduction of up to \$2000 (two thousand dollars) on your next income tax return. Please contact Jason Betham or to make payment arrangements.

Treasury Departments's 2007 Second Quarter Financial Report to DOI

As of Sept. 30, 2006, the general fund balance (unaudited) was \$5,032,297. The estimated unreserved and undesignated fund balance as of that same date was \$1,733,847, but the estimated operating deficit for FY 2007 is \$4,120,432. Altogether, this amounts to an estimated deficit of \$2,386,585 by Sept. 30, 2007.

This is detailed in the Treasury Department's FY 2007 second quarter revenues and expenditures report which has been forwarded to Nikolao Pula and the Budget Office of the DOI's Office of Insular Affairs.

The report, which was prepared according to the activities and transactions between January and March, provides the preliminary and unaudited financial reports as of March 31, 2007 and indicates that the general fund is forecasted to have a total deficit of \$4,209,950 by the end of the year for FY 2007.

But with all other funds in the Treasurer's Cash Pool added in, the total deficit will be decreased to \$4,120,432. The deficit is being blamed mainly on the \$1,398,398 in total revenue collections below budget, and total expenditures of \$2,811,552 exceeding budget.

Funds in the Treasurer's Cash Pool with deficit are Driver's Training (\$31,648), Public Market (\$93,282), and the Sports Complex (\$154,402). But funds with savings include the Industrial Park (\$90,904), Tafuna Airport (\$90,334), the Housing Fund (\$178,966), and the Print Shop (\$8,646).

General Fund revenues are forecasted to be below budget by about \$1.4 million, due mainly to revenue collections in Taxes, which is more than \$3.6 million below budget. The ASG is also short on individual taxes by \$218,336 and excise taxes by about \$4 million.

DOI's Basic Operating Grant has been reduced to \$7,291,000. The General Fund departments overspent the total budget by \$2,811,552

Departments and programs with large overruns are:

| Governor's Office | \$120,454 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Legislature | \$953,866 |
| Agriculture | \$166,120 |
| Education | \$410,942 |
| Public Safety | \$377,762 |
| Election Office | \$131,362 |
| Property Insurance | \$147,500 |
| ASG Audit Contract | \$100,000 |
| Public Street Lights | \$128,256 |
| EOB Electricity & Water | \$463,134 |
| Other ASG (non-EOB) Electricity | \$700,628 |

Departments with considerable savings are:

| Treasury | \$287,890 |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Public Works | \$235,070 |
| Territorial Audit | \$107,730 |
| Administrative Services | \$104,266 |

Currently, there are a total of 4,604 ASG employees. Of that number, 3,635 are permanent workers, 411 are contract employees, and 558 are on temporary status.

First 50-Cent Minimum Wage Increase Goes Into Effect July 24, 2007

On Monday, July 24, 2007, the first 50-cent hike for the new federal minimum wage goes into effect.

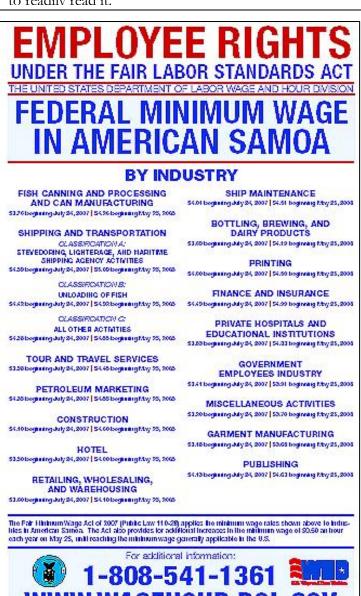
The US Department of Labor has released the list ofnew wages for the first and second 50-cent hikes, thelatter of which will go into effect May 25, 2008.

The new hikes mean that the territory's largestprivate employers, the two canneries, will raise its minimum wage to \$3.76 per hour.

American Samoa Government employees, including the authorities, will see a new minimum wage increase of \$3.41 an hour. The minimum wage rates for American Samoa are set by a special industry committee appointed by the US Department of Labor, as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act which applies generally to employment within the territory as it does to employment within the United States.

According to the DOL, the rates are set for particular industries, not for an employee's particular occupation. An employer may choose to pay an employee at a rate higher than the rate(s) for its industry.

"Every employer of employees subject to Fair Labor Standards Act's minimum wage provisions must post, and keep posted, a notice explaining the Act in a conspicuous place in all of their establishments so as to permit employees to readily read it."



U.S. Orpotherst of Labor | Employment Standards Administration | Viognand Hour Civision

OVERTIME PAY

At least 1 1/2 times your regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT An employee must be at least 16 years old to work in most nonfarm jobs and at least 18 to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor.

Youths 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs under the following conditions:

No more than

- 3 hours on a school day or 18 hours in a school week;
- 8 hours on a non-school day or 40 hours in a non-school week

Also, work may not begin before 7 a.m., or end after 7 p.m., except from June 1 through Labor Day, when evening hours are extended to 9 p.m. Different rules apply in agricultural employment. For more information, visit our YouthPules website at www.youthrules.doi.gov.

TIP CREDIT

Employers of "tipped employees" must pay a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee's tips combined with the employer's cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference. Certain other conditions must also be met.

ENFORCEMENT

The Department of Labor may recover back wages either administratively or through court action, for the employees that have been underpaid in violation of the law. Violations may result in civil or criminal action.

Civil money penalties of up to \$11,000 per violation may be assessed against employers who violate the youth employment provisions of the law and up to \$1,100 per violation against employers who willfully or repeatedly violate the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions. This law prohibits discriminating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceedings under the Act.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage and/or overtime pay provisions.
- The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.
- Employees under 20 years of age may be paid \$4.25 per hour during their first 90 consecutive calendar days of employment with an employer.
- Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of Labor.

Treasury pays out \$12 million in tax refunds

Tax filing season is over. After processing an estimated 9,400 returns, the Treasury Department has issued close to \$12 million in tax refund checks to local residents.

Tax Office Manager Melvin Joseph explained that while the majority of the refund checks have already been issued, there are some returns that are pending due to reasons that may include double claims or calculation errors. The total refunds include \$4.1 million for local returns and another \$7.8 million for Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC), which is funded by the U.S. Treasury Department.

Joseph tips his hat off to the Tax Office staff, as well as ASG Treasurer Velega Savali and his staff for ensuring that there was enough money available to cover tax refunds.

According to Velega, the abundance of funds is a result of the aggressive collection efforts of his staff, specifically the credit and collection division who have been able to collect on numerous bounced checks, government leases, and overdue tax payments, in addition to the normal collections made from excise taxes and mandated fees.

"Normal collections are not so good at this point but it is the aggressive efforts to collect in other areas that has enabled us to float by," Velega said.

He added that the Treasury Department does what it can to implement strict enforcement, in order to help the government maintain a positive financial state.

Velega says that in addition to collecting, the Treasury Department is also saving money through the monitoring of overtime payments, in an effort to stop the pattern of abuse in this area.

ASG's head money man has indicated that the government is doing good as far as money is concerned, but added that it is very difficult to predict anything because there are still some government departments and agencies who continue to overrun their budgets.

Velega reminds all department and agency heads that an overrun in their budgets, including a shortfall in grants due to disallowable costs will cost the local government, as it is ASG who has to step in and cover the costs.

3D's of Dengue Prevention

The Department of Health recommends following the 3D's of Dengue Prevention to protect one's self and their families:

- 1 DRAIN standing water around the house that may serve as mosquito breeding sites.
- *Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water so limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by getting rid of items that hold water.
- *Tires, drums, buckets, old appliances, and ice cream containers are the most common breeding sites for disease spreading mosquitoes in American Samoa.
 - 2 DRESS protectively by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, sock, and shoes.
 - *Covering exposed skin can limit contact with potentially infected mosquitoes.
 - 3 DEET Use a mosquito repellant containing "DEET" on exposed skin.

Symptoms of dengue fever include: fever, severe headaches, pains in the body and joints, nausea, vomiting, eye pain, and rash. Consult your physician if you develop these symptoms.

More information on dengue fever or other communicable diseases can be obtained by calling the Department of Health at 633-4606.

HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On July 18, 1887, four mutineers from Hawaiian King Kalakaua's ship *Kaimiloa* were deported from Apia to Australia.

On July 18, 1887, Charles Poor, Hawaiian King Kalakaua's *chargé d' affairs* in Apia, received instructions to close the Hawaiian mission to Samoa, and return home.

On July 18, 1942, Commander Thomas Calloway Latimore, American Samoa's 22nd naval governor (acting: April 10--April 17, 1934) was last seen near Aiea Landing, Honolulu, Hawaii. He was "declared officially dead as of July 19, 1942," and his cause of death was listed as "Disappeared while on hike."

On July 18, 1962, the first jet aircraft to land at Pago Pago International Airport was a Boeing 707 carrying Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall.

On July 20, 1912, American Samoa's Governor, Commander William Michael Crose, issued his "Regulation No. 4-1912: Importation of Animals," which forbade the importation of any animals, "excepting certified domestic animals," namely, "Horses, mules, donkeys, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, dogs, cats and poultry."

On July 20, 1941, 30 members of American Samoa's Fita Fita Guard were assigned to the U.S. Marine Corps' 7th Defense Battalion for training purposes.

On July 20, 1942, Sianava Robert Seva'aetasi, the first Samoan to enlist in the First Samoan Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, became the first person promoted to Sergeant in that organization.

On July 20, 2001, the American Samoa Government, DELTA Consortium and PEACESAT dedicated the 7.2 Meter Hubsite Satellite Antenna at Tafuna, American Samoa. In his dedication speech, Lieutenant Governor Togiola T.A. Tulafono praised the hard work of DELTA and PEACESAT personnel in bringing the project to completion.

On July 21, 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt thanked the chiefs of "Tutuila, Aunu'u and other neighboring islands" for signing the Deed of Cession.

On July 21, 1913, Emma Eliza ("Queen Emma") Coe, founder of a vast Pacific commercial empire, died in Monte Carlo.

On July 22, 2003, Paramount Chief Letuli Olo Misilagi of American Samoa passed away in Honolulu, Hawaii at the age of 84. In a general memorandum, Governor Togiola Tulafono wrote: "With mournful hearts, we face the passing of Paramount Chief Letuli, who exemplified love of life, and during his lifetime was a true ambassador for American Samoa, its culture and traditions. His contributions to the preservation of the arts and culture are without comparison....PC Letuli leaves a great and memorable legacy in the countless young people he trained in the arts throughout the years. His counseling of them to love and respect their arts and culture made him one of our most notable, noble and exemplary leaders. His service to family, church, village, county and Territory marks him as one of the true fathers of this country."

On July 24, 1942, the Seabees' 11th Construction Battalion and materials to be used for the construction of a destroyer repair base in Pago Pago Harbor were assembled in Oakland, California.

USS Samoa (CB-6): The Ship That Never Was

Transcribed and edited by Stan Sorensen.

The name *Samoa* was selected for CB-6, an *Alaska* class large cruiser ordered on September 9, 1940 from New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, New Jersey. The *Alaska* class battlecruisers (officially called "large cruisers" by the US Navy) were built to counter the threat posed by the German "pocket battleships" (*Graf Spee* and her sister ships), the battlecruisers *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau* and *Prinz Eugen*, and the *Chichibu* class battlecruisers which Japan was rumored to be building (but never did).

The six *Alaskas*, designated as "CBs", were to be named after United States Territories, as follows: CB-1: *Alaska*; CB-2: *Guam*; CB-3: *Hawaii*; CB-4: *Philippines*; CB-5: *Puerto Rico*; CB-6: *Samoa*. Only *Alaska* and *Guam* were completed. Both saw action in the last campaigns of World War II: Iwo Jima and Okinawa. *Hawaii* was laid up incomplete, and scrapped in 1960. The other three ships never got off the drawing board.

Although *Samoa* was scheduled for completion by December 1, 1946, all available materials and slipways were allocated to higher priority ships: aircraft carriers, destroyers, and submarines. This postponed her keel laying until large cruisers were no longer required. *Samoa's* construction, never begun, was finally cancelled on June 24, 1943. If USS *Samoa* had been built, her statistics would have been like USS *Alaska* (CB-1), as follows:

Displacement: 27,000 tons; length: 806'6"; beam: 91'1"; draft: 27'1" (mean); speed: 31.4 knots; complement: 2,251; armament: nine 12" guns, 12 5", 56 40 mm., 34 20 mm.; aircraft: 4 Vought OS2U *Kingfisher* or Curtiss SC-1 *Seahawk* observation aircraft.

Armor: 9' belt, 12 4/5" turrets, 1 2/5" + 4" + 5/8" decks; machinery: 150,000 SHP; G.E. geared turbines, 4 screws.



LEADERS IN PROFILE

Ruth Sipili Matagi-Tofiga

Tafuna High School principal

Born: August 12, 1959 Village: Fagatogo Elementary: St. Francis School in Lepua High School: Samoana High School 1976

College: Loyola Marymount University - BS Biology; University of Hawaii,

Manoa - M.Ed Secondary Education

Affiliation: Member of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, member of the National Biology Teacher Association, member of the American Supervision Curriculum Development, Who's Who Teacher 2004

Experience: 6 years principal, 2 years vice principal, 5 years counselor, 6 years classroom teacher

Church: CCCAS Fagatogo, choirmaster

Hobbies: Reading, Playing Piano, Gardening Spouse: Punaoa Dan Tofiga

Children: 5

When Tafuna High School Principal Mrs. Ruth Sipili Matagi-Tofiga sets her eyes on a goal, she does everything she can to make sure it is accomplished. And while accreditation issues have been questionable at some other local schools, Tofiga's Warriors have nothing to worry about. That's because she set out to attain a six-year accreditation and with the help of the school administrators, faculty and staff, students, parents, and the Department of Education, that goal was accomplished.

"We have received full accreditation (6 years) from the Western Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges," Tofiga said proudly.

According to her, the goal of any educational system should be to produce responsible citizens who have the tools to participate productively and meaningfully in the world around them, to be the leaders of tomorrow in all areas of culture, service, and government.

"If our students are to be productive citizens, they must be equipped with the basic skills - reading, writing, and verbal communication," she added. "Now with the age of technology, they must have computer skills. We have addressed basic skills in terms of programs, and assessments are in place to provide data used to analyze the progress of our students."

So what are some of the problems she believes are plaguing the local education system? Tofiga replied: "Accountability - performance accountability."

She explained, "Money can no longer be an excuse for failing our children. If children fail, we fail. Accountability means consequences, both good and bad. For the performance of schools, the federal 'No Child Left Behid Act' sadly demonstrated that accountability without resources is a false promise, but we also know that resources without accountability are a recipe for waste."

Tofiga says that accountability should run through the system from top to bottom.

And what does she have to say about being a woman running the biggest high school in the territory? "It's a challenge!" She continued, "I have managed because of the tremendous support of my administrators, faculty and staff, students and their parents. We are a familythat came together with one goal in mind, and that was to provide the best education afforded to our students. We are all accountable for the education of our children."

Tofiga says that the ASG should work together withvillage youth groups and the aumaga to put together after-school programs for the youth, including tutoring sessions, sports activities, and forums where the youth can come together to voice their concerns as well as form camaraderie with others.

"My basic philosophy is, 'walk the talk.' With a staffof 80 and a students body of 1,400 all eyes are on you and therefore, you must 'walk the talk.' I know with the guidance from our Heavenly Father, the support of my family, school support, and parental and community support, I have been able to cope with all the challenges of a school leader," she explained. "God bless our children. God bless American Samoa!" she concluded.

...more HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On July 16, 1883, Sisters Mary St. Vincent, St. Claire and St. Thérèse left Apia "to establish a house of NDO (*Notre Dame d'Océanie* [Our Lady of Oceania]) at Leone, Tutuila."

On July 16, 1896, Captain Joshua Slocum---the first man to sail around the world alone---arrived in Apia harbor aboard the *Spray*. Three Samoan girls, seeing that he had no crew, said, "You had other mans an' you eat 'em."

On July 17, 1911, in his "Annual Report to the Secretary of the Navy," (George von L. Meyer) American Samoa's Governor, Commander William Michael Crose, reported on the Fita Fita Guard as follows: "A noticeable improvement has been effected in the teaching of the English language to the members of the Native Guard. The instruction has been, and is, in charge of the Chaplain. He now holds two instruction periods daily, of one hour each, and more interest is shown by the fitafitas than formerly. An attempt will be made to have a limited conversational knowledge of English a requirement for re-enlistment, but it seems next to impossible for some of the fitafitas to learn English...Instruction in wig-wag signalling has begun, and some of the Guard are able to send and receive messages, signalling slowly. Signal parties are today on two mountain peaks--Matafao and Tuaolo--signalling to each other. Practice marches have been instituted, and the fitafitas are gaining much more extended knowledge of the trails on the island. Smallarm target practice will be taken up during this year. The Band plays very well, considering the material from which it is made. Samoans do not play any musical instruments except the harmonica, and have no knowledge of written music, so the difficulties confronting a bandmaster may be appreciated. Some of the bandsmen have been in this band since it was established in 1902. The Band has twice given concerts in Apia, and was complimented upon its performance. It is taken to Manu'a when the station ship goes to that Island. There is a great demand for duty in the fitafitas, and we have no trouble in getting the best of the young men of the Island to enlist."

On July 18, 1899, the Tripartite Commission which arrived in Apia on May 13 made its joint report, which said that the existing tripartite government was impractical for Samoa, and recommended that the islands be partitioned. On July 19, 1966, the second USS *Tutuila* (ARG-4) relieved USS *Krishna* (ARL-28) at An Thoi, Phu Quoc Island, in the Gulf of Siam to support Operation "Market Time" in South Vietnam by servicing fast patrol boats (PCFs). Tutuila also supported operations "Game Warden" and "Stable Door" through the end of 1966.

On July 22, 1936, Western Samoan *Mau* leader Taisi Olaf Frederick Nelson, returning home from his final exile in New Zealand, sailed into Apia Harbor aboard SS *Maui Pomare*, and received a tumultuous welcome. The harbor was crowded with *fautasi*, and an estimated 15,000 people were on hand to greet him. Nelson was seen to be "visibly impressed and embarrassed" by the welcome.

On July 22, 1816, the Society of Mary, whose members are called Marists, was founded in the basilica of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Fourvière, France. The Marist Order subsequently became the pioneer Catholic missionary order in Samoa.

USS Narragansett

The Narragansett were a Native American Algonquin tribe who lived in Rhode Island.

The first *Narragansett*, a 2nd class screw sloop built at the Boston Navy Yard, was launched on February 15, 1859 and commissioned on November 6, 1859, with Commander. T. A. Hunt in command.

Narragansett operated along the East Coast into the spring of 1860. On March 31 of that year she departed Norfolk, Virginia, for the Pacific, arriving at Valparaiso, Chile, on August 4. Throughout the Civil War she cruised in the Pacific with the primary mission of protecting American mail steamers from Confederate raiders. On December 15, 1864 she departed the eastern Pacific for the east coast of the United States, arriving in New York City on March 18, 1865, where she remained for several years. Back in full service in 1869, she was ordered south, to cruise off the Cuban and Florida coasts. With the outbreak of yellow fever in the ship in the late spring, Narragansett was ordered to Portsmouth, New Hampshire where she was decommissioned July 2, 1869.

Inactive for over two years, she again set sail for the Pacific on March 26, 1871, arriving at San Francisco on September 17. In December, captained by Commander Richard Meade, she sailed for the Southwest Pacific and an extended cruise through the Marshall, Gilbert and Samoan Islands, arriving in Pago Pago Harbor on February 14, 1872. On March 4, Meade and Paramount Chief Mauga Manuma signed the first American-Samoan treaty at Gagamoe Stream in Pago Pago Harbor entitled "Commercial Regulations, etc."

This agreement was submitted to the United States Senate in May 1872 by President Grant stating that he would not hesitate to recommend its approval, but for the protection to which it seemed to pledge the United States, which he thought was not in accord with the foreign policy of the United States. The United States Senate did not ratify the agreement, and hence, it apparently never became legally effective, but the Samoans considered it binding, and it laid the groundwork for the Mamoe-Evarts Treaty of 1878.

Narragansett next cruised to Australia, arriving at Sydney on April 2, 1873. On her return from this cruise, the sloop was assigned special duty in connection with the survey and examination of the steamer routes along the coasts of California and Mexico. Detached from that duty in 1875, she entered San Francisco's Mare Island shipyard, where she was decommissioned and was laid up until November 3, 1883, when she was sold to William E. Mighell of San Francisco. (Transcribed and edited by Stan Sorensen.)